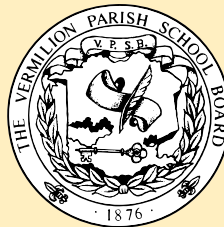


From the Superintendent...

"Our employees perform their jobs in an extremely efficient manner and their success and dedication to the educational needs of our children is evidenced by the high test scores our students receive. We're actually achieving more than many parishes in our district and state with considerably less funding. We are all committed to maintaining the quality of education in Vermilion Parish. We are committed to maintaining open lines of communication with employees, parents and students. Most importantly, we are committed to keeping the public informed of how we dedicate and utilize their tax dollars...and that will never change."



Randy Schexnayder
Superintendent



Vermilion Parish School Board

P.O. Drawer 520

Abbeville, LA 70511-0520

www.vrml.k12.la.us

The of State Education

Vermilion Parish • Fall 2010



"Our prime responsibility is to maintain the quality of education for the children of Vermilion Parish."

Dexter Callahan
President

Vermilion Parish School Board



Everyone Benefits By Working Together

Support of various initiatives by the taxpayers has resulted in better schools and infrastructure:

- Roofs and air conditioners throughout parish schools have been replaced.
- A completely new bus fleet has been purchased.
- Technology has been upgraded in all schools.
- The average teacher salary has risen to the SREB average.

Various initiatives and projects have been funded at no cost to taxpayers of Vermilion Parish for the following:

- Construction of LeBlanc Elementary School (FEMA & CDBG Funds)
- Construction of Meaux Elementary Cafeteria (Daniel R. Dartez Trust Fund)
- Construction of flood wall at Dozier Elementary (FEMA Funds)
- Installation of cameras on all school buses (State Grant)
- Upgrading library inventory at all schools (Laura Bush and Chevron Grant)
- Installation of projectors in all classrooms in parish (Chevron Grant)
- Installation of laser printers and network color printers in all schools (Restart Grant)
- Upgrading area network in all schools (Restart Grant)
- Installation of a Mobile Science Laboratory in all schools (Chevron Grant)
- Hiring of Curriculum Interventionists and Reading Coaches (Title I Stimulus Funds)
- **Daniel R. Dartez Trust Fund Projects - Total \$6,645,000.00**
 - Construction of Dozier Cafeteria and Kitchen
 - Construction of Herod Multi Purpose Building
 - Construction of Eaton Park Multi Purpose Building
 - Construction of Kaplan Elementary Multi Purpose Building
 - Construction of Jesse Owens Multi Purpose Building
 - Construction of Print Shop and Technology Center
 - Construction of Rene Rost Gym
 - Construction of Meaux Cafeteria



Like every other school district in Louisiana, the Vermilion Parish School Board has faced tough decisions in order to maintain the quality of education and financial stability of our educational system. This is particularly true for the 2010 – 2011 school year due to the current state of the economy, reductions in oil and gas revenues, sales tax revenues, and MFP revenues, as well as an increase in unfunded mandates by the state.

In spite of these adverse factors, the school system in Vermilion Parish remains strong, financially healthy, and since 2007 continues to rank in the top 15 school districts in the state. This ranking is based on student performance scores...a category by which educational systems are evaluated.

The following is a partial list of recent academic achievements:

- Meaux Elementary (2005) and Jessie Owens Elementary (2009) were selected for School of the Year in the State of Louisiana for closing the achievement gap.
- Gueydan High School received the Bronze Medal from U.S. News & World Report for being among the Best High Schools in the United States for 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 (approximately 30 schools in Louisiana received this recognition).
- Erath High School received the Bronze Medal from U.S. News & World Report for being among the Best High Schools in the United States for 2008-2009.
- Herod Elementary was ranked 3rd in the state for having continuous growth in reading in 2008-2009.
- Jesse Owens Elementary (2008-2009) and Erath Middle School (2009-2010) were nominated for Title I School of the Year in Louisiana



Hard Work and Dedication Produce Results

In spite of the horrific damages caused by Hurricanes Lily, Rita, Gustav and Ike, we have been able to show steady growth, keep our schools operational and achieve high School Performance Scores. This is a result of devoted teachers, dedicated employees, hard-working students, concerned parents, and conscientious members of the Vermilion Parish School Board.

98.9%

Finally, Vermilion Parish ranks 4th in the state at 98.9% for the percentage of Core Courses being taught by teachers who have been deemed "Highly Qualified." The state average is 82.6%!